The universal system of collective security, established by the UN Charter, is a unique phenomenon of development of international relations after World War II. The collective security system establishes not only normative, but also political and military prerequisites for the UN in current conditions to be able to prevent threats, acts of aggression and other acts of breach of peace. This particular aspect of the collective security system within the UN became particularly evident after the Cold War, when instead of ideological confrontation, cooperation between states began to develop not only on issues of collective security on a global scale, but also on problems of economic and social development, environment, fighting poverty and underdevelopment that require collective efforts of the international community.

The United Nations and International Security

The UN offers comprehensive solutions to problems. Besides, the organization adopts new international legal norms, structures and processes for international cooperation and provides a platform for diplomatic contacts, international discussions, meetings and conferences.

Through its work, the UN provides necessary conditions for the peaceful settlement of disputes. The United Nations promotes peace by all its actions: it makes efforts to protect human rights; undertakes preemptive diplomatic measures to prevent conflict; provides electoral assistance and supports democratization; promotes economic and social development; provides humanitarian assistance; works on repatriation of refugees; helps restore public infrastructure and facilitates the reconstruction process.

The universal system of collective security, established by the UN Charter, is a unique phenomenon of development of international relations after World War II. Joint actions of states within the UN to maintain universal peace and security are based on clear and detailed system of functions and authorities of the main UN bodies in this area and on respective commitments of UN member states.

The system of collective security establishes not only normative, but also political and military prerequisites for the Organization in contemporary context to be able to prevent threats or use of force, acts of aggression or other actions leading to breach of peace.
Global Security Challenges

On 25 January 2012, the United Nations Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon presented a five-year framework based on five priorities to the UN General Assembly:

(i) sustainable development
(ii) preventing and mitigating conflicts, human rights abuses and the impacts of natural disasters
(iii) building a safer and more secure world
(iv) supporting countries in transition
(v) promotion of women and youth rights

Most of the tasks relate precisely to the challenges and threats to global international security. For example:

- strengthen partnerships for peacekeeping
- renew the global disarmament and non-proliferation agenda in the field of nuclear and other weapons of mass destruction
- coherence and scale of UN counter-terrorism efforts
- combat diseases that kill the largest number of people: malaria, polio, HIV/AIDS, postpartum tetanus, newborn tetanus and measles
- promote climate financing
- mobilize a broad multi-stakeholder coalition as part of the "Sustainable Energy for All" initiative
- adopt globally agreed goals for food and nutrition security

The above-mentioned problems of ensuring collective international security demonstrate a change in the international legal paradigm of global security. Previously, global security meant only military and political security, but today it is also food security, climate security, space security, energy security and information security. All these sub-systems of global security are interconnected and must be maintained on the basis of international law. This has been highlighted in the outcome document The Future We Want adopted at the UN Conference on Sustainable Development (Rio+20) in Rio de Janeiro on 22 June 2012.